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## BOOK REVIEWS.

MASS AND CLASS. A Survey of Social Divisions. By *W. J. Ghent*. New York: The Macmillan Company. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd. 1904. Pp. ix, 260. Price, \$1.25.

Some time ago Mr. W. H. Mallock published a book on *Classes and Masses*, which, however, according to the opinion of Mr. W. J. Ghent, does not do justice to the subject. Mr. Ghent says of Mr. Mallock: "His argument and illustration are confined solely to an attempt to prove the interesting assumption that out of the modern increase of wealth in Great Britain the 'working classes' have received an altogether disproportionate share."

In contrast to Mr. Mallock's book our author proposes the result of his own investigations which he characterises as follows: "In my present work I have sought to analyse the social mass into its component classes; to describe these classes, not as they may be imagined in some projected benevolent feudalism, but as they are to be found here and now in the industrial life of the nation; and to indicate the current of social progress which, in spite of of the blindness of the workers, the rapacity of the masters, and the subservience of the retainers, makes ever for an ultimate of social justice."

The author divides all classes of those directly concerned with production, distribution, exchange, and service, into six groups to the exclusion of non-wage-earning women and children. These six classes are (1) proletarians or wage-earning producers, (2) self-employing producers, among whom the land-holding farmers and handicraftsmen are the most important ones, (3) social servants, (4) traders, (5) idle capitalists, and (6) retainers whose occupations consist in contributing to the comforts and interests of capitalists, traders, etc.

The most important parts of the book are chapters 7 and 8 on "The Reign of Graft," which contain our author's accusations of the present state of conditions, "an inescapable result of individualist competitive industry." Many of the evils pointed out in these chapters are no doubt based on justice, but we cannot help thinking that the author is strongly biased by his preconceived notions of a one-sided social ideal. He concludes his book with these words:

"Slowly among the victims arises a sense of the injustice, the chaos, and the waste of this practice; and more slowly, but still surely, the determination to be rid of it; to apportion, upon equitable terms, the common burdens, and to distribute, in equitable shares, the common hoard. That determination is the growing and expanding will of the producing classes, and its fulfilment will be the co-operative commonwealth."

AN OUTLINE OF THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION, With a Description of some of the Phenomena which it Explains. By *Maynard M. Metcalf*. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1904. Pp. xvii, 204. Price, \$2.50 net.

The author, Maynard M. Metcalf, is professor of biology in the Woman's College of Baltimore, and the present book incorporates a series of lectures which he gave before a number of visitors who had expressed a desire to attend, as well as the students in his classes. For this reason the lecturer has especially endeavored to avoid technicalities as far as possible, treating the subject in a popular way and supplying a great part of information by means of illustrations. In fact we may say that the illustrations of the book are its most important feature, and the author has purposely selected them from the best scientific sources, in the hope that his students will thus be encouraged to study up the subject more carefully in the expositions of those prominent writers who have been the chief contributors to the development of this most significant branch of science. The style of the lectures is easy and fluent, and the illustrations (some of which are in colors, especially those referring to mimicry) are not only instructive but elegant as well.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PHILOSOPHY OF HERBERT SPENCER. By *William Henry Hudson*. Issued for the Rationalist Press Association, Ltd. London: Watts & Co., 1904. Pp. 128.

This booklet contains a biography of Spencer. It contains a review of Spencer's early work preparatory to his main theme, an exposition of the *Synthetic Philosophy*, a condensed statement of the *First Principles*, the *Principles of Biology* and *Psychology*, a sketch of Spencerian sociology, a summary of his ethics, and finally the religious aspect of his philosophy. The appendix contains a list of Spencer's works. This book, which makes no claim of offering anything new, may be useful to those who are not familiar with Spencer's theories. It is adorned with a picture not of Mr. Spencer but of his interpreter, Mr. Hudson.